

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 15479

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, IT, FR

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTRY VIEWS ON FRENCH ENERGY PROPOSAL

BRUSSELS FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS

REF: ROME 15478

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH ECMIN REPORTED REFTEL, RICCIULLI VOLUNTEER-ED HIS PERSONAL VIEWS ON THE FRENCH ENERGY PROPOSAL. FRENCH DEMARCHE HAD BEEN PRESENTED TO HIM LAST WEEK BY FRENCH CHARGE. FRENCH AMB-ASSADOR (LUCET) ON HIS RETURN FROM PARIS NOV 5 HAD IMMEDIATELY CALLED ON SECRETARY GENERAL GAJA TO ASK FOR GOI REACTION, WHICH WAS NOT THEN AND STILL IS NOT AVAILABLE.

2. THE PAPER WHICH HAS GONE TO FOREIGN MINISTER MORO REFLECTS RICCIULLI'S NEGATIVE VIEW OF THE FRENCH PROPOSAL. HE REASONS THAT THE IEP TWELVE HAVE ALREADY BEGUN WORKING TOGETHER TOWARD THE SAME GOAL ENVISAGED BY THE FRENCH, AND HE SEES NO REASON WHY THEY SHOULD ABANDON THEIR EFFORTS AND FOLLOW THE FRENCH.

3. MOREOVER, HE DOES NOT LIKE THE PARTICIPATION FORMULA THAT THE FRENCH PROPOSED FOR THE CONFERENCE. RICCIULLI HAD DISCUSSED WITH
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OPEC SECRETARY GENERAL KHENE (IN TOWN LAST WEEK FOR A SPEECH, ROME

15000) THE POSSIBILITY OF PUTTING TOGETHER CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION THROUGH UN MECHANISMS, AND HAD FOUND KHENE RECEPTIVE. HE FEELS THIS APPROACH IS MUCH MORE PROMISING THAN ARBITRARY SELECTION AS PROPOSED BY FRENCH.

4. RICCIULLI ADDED THAT HE HAD HEARD THAT MORO'S FIRST OFFHAND REACTION TO FRENCH PROPOSAL HAD BEEN FAVORABLE. HE HOPES MORO WILL RECONSIDER IN LIGHT OF HIS PAPER BUT HAS NO IDEA WHEN A DECISION WILL BE TAKEN.VOLPE

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